

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

A server is provided between a plurality of Internet service providers and a plurality of user nodes. The server chooses an appropriate Internet service provider to which a user node is to be connected, according to a user's preferences. When the user node a dial-up connection, the server dials up on the Internet service provider which suits the user's preference. After the connection between the user node and the server and the connection between the server and the Internet service provider are established, the server records the connection time of a session and uses the recorded data for calculating the service fees to be charged.